

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 CU-02 /064 W
-----151137Z 046646 /13

R 150930Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9585
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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EO 11652 NA
TAGS: PFOR SHUM CSCE YO
SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS

REF: BELGRADE 883(NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: YUGOSLAV MEDIA ARE NOW RESPONDING WITH EDITORIALS TO WHAT THEY DESCRIBE AS A CAMPAIGN AGAINST YUGOSLAV HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD AND, IN GENERAL, TO WESTERN CONCERN OVER BASKET III OF THE HELSINKI DOCUMENT. THERE IS AS YET NO SIGN OF A CRACKDOWN ON DISSIDENTS BUT ONE STUDENT WAS REPORTEDLY DETAINED WHILE CIRCULATING A PETITION. TWO MEMBERS CROATIAN NATIONALIST ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO LONG PRISON TERMS. A GERMAN DELEGATION FROM THE LEAGUE FOR THE RIGHTS OF MAN IS SEEKING RELEASE OF MIHAJLO MIHAJLOV AND SAVO BANKOVIC. END SUMMARY.

2. EDITORIALS IN SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS OVER THE WEEKEND DEFEND YUGOSLAV HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD, CITING STATISTICS ON PASSPORT ISSUANCE AND BORDER CROSSING, AND ATTACK ATTEMPTS TO DRAW YUGOSLAVIA INTO THE BLOC CONFRONTATION OVER HUMAN RIGHTS.

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COMMENTS PORATRY CAMPAIGN ON HUMAN RIGHTS AS AIMED AT UNDERMINING THE HELSINKI ACCORD AND THE BELGRADE FOLLOW-UP MEETING. "TANJUG" CONDEMNS "AN ATTEMPT TO LEGALIZE RIGHTS OF INTERFERENCE INTO INTERNAL MATTERS" AND EMPHASIS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ONLY SELECTED PORTION OF HELSINKI DOCUMENT. "BORBA" EDITORIALIST WRITES THAT ON THE EVE OF THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE THERE HAVE BEEN MUTAL ALLEGATIONS WHICH EVEN RAISED THE QUESTION WHETHER THE CONFERENCE

WILL

BE HELD: "IT IS ENTIRELY CLEAR THAT BEHIND THESE, IF NOT FALSE AT LEAST UNNECESSARY, CLAIMS STAND WELL KNOWN SEARCHERS FOR THE SPIRIT OF THE COLD WAR AND OPPONENTS OF PEACE, SECURITY AND COOPERATION, NOT ONLY OF EUROPEAN NATIONS."

ACCORDING TO "POLITIKA" EDITORIAL, PROPAGANDA WEAPONS FROM THE PERIOD OF THE COLD WAR HAVE BEEN REACTIVATED: "THE WHOLE OPERATION HAS THE DIMENSIONS OF MORE AND MORE DIRECT AND AGGRESSIVE INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. BEHAVING THIS WAY IN THE NAME OF HELSINKI, IN FACT ONE ATTACKS IT...."

3. UPI STORY FROM BELGRADE DATELINED FEBRUARY 10 REPORTS THAT AN UNIDENTIFIED BELGRADE UNIVERSITY STUDENT HAD BEEN DETAINED BY POLICE FOR TWO HOURS ON FEB 9 AS HE SOLICITED SIGNATURES FOR A PETITION SUPPORTING CHARTER 77 IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

4. USIS INFORMATION CENTER IN BELGRADE OVER WEEKEND RECEIVED BY MAIL A PRESS RELEASE FROM THE FRANKFURT LEAGUE FOR THE RIGHTS OF MAN (GESELLSCHAFT FUR MENSCHENRECHTE E.V., 6 FRANKFURT/ M.1. POSTF. 2965).

"WITH REGARD TO THE SECOND CONFERENCE FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE", IT ANNOUNCES THE PRESENCE IN BELGRADE OF A DELEGATION FROM THE LEAGUE. THE DELEGATION HAS SOUGHT GOY PERMISSION TO VISIT MIHAJLO MIHAJLOV AND A 70 YEAR OLD SERBIAN ORTHODOX PRIEST, SAVO BANKOVIC, WHO HAS FOUR YEARS REMAINING OF A 15 YEAR SENTENCE. IT ALSO SENT A LETTER TO PRESIDENT TITO ASKING THAT THE TWO MEN BE AMNESTIED. MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION ARE HEINZ ENGELHARDT, WHO LOST BOTH LEGS IN A MINE EXPLOSION WHILE ESCAPING FROM EAST GERMANY, RHEA SCHLICKUM, AND WINFRIED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PIETREK.

5. YUGOSLAV COURTS HAVE RECENTLY CONVICTED TWO MEN TO LONG PRISON SENTENCES FOR POLITICAL CRIMES. ON FEB 9 A COURT IN SREMSKA MITROVICA FOUND NEDELJKO MARTINOVIC (29), A LOCKSMITH FROM BESKA, GUILTY OF HOSTILE ACTIVITIES AND SENTENCED HIM TO ELEVEN YEARS IN PRISON. MARTINOVIC JOINED THE CROATIAN REVOLUTIONARY BROTHERHOOD (HRB) IN 1975 WHILE WORKING IN GERMANY. HE REPORTEDLY WAS RECRUITED BY JOSIP OREC, ONE OF THE LEADERS OF THE HRB WHOM HE MET IN PRISON. MARTINOVIC WAS ALSO FOUND TO HAVE "AROUSED NATIONAL INTOLERANCE, INSULTED THE HIGHEST LEADERSHIP OF THE SFRY AND SPREADS FALSE REPORTS ABOUT OUR COUNTRY" IN STARA PAZOVA IN 1976.

6. IN BANJA LUKA, DZEMAL ZULIC (30) FROM THE VILLAGE OF TRNOPOLJE, WAS SENTENCED TO 9 YEARS IN JAIL FOR "A CRIMINAL ACT AGAINST THE PEOPLE AND THE STATE". WHILE WORKING ABROAD HE JOINED THE CROATIAN PEOPLE'S

COMMITTEE(HRVATSKI NARODNI ODBOR). FROM 1970 TO
OCTOBER 1976 HE MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH THE ORGANIZATION,
ATTENDED ITS MEETINGS, PAID DUES, AND RECEIVED ITS
NEWSPAPER. HE POSSESSED THE BADGE OF THE ORGANIZATION
AND A "CROATIAN STATE PASSPORT" ACCORDING TO THE
PRESS ACCOUNT.
YORK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BELGRA00928
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770053-0546
Format: TEL
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770242/aaaablab.tel
Line Count: 123
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5f4bcec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ORM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BELGRADE 883
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3324073
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, YO, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5f4bcec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009